

**Governor's Early Childhood Advisory Council Meeting**  
**June 2, 2021 9:00 AM -11:00 AM**  
**Meeting Minutes**

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Present: Ann Terrell Barbara Bales (designee), Barbara Van Haren, Cailin O'Connor, Carolyn Stanford Taylor, Danielle Williams, Daria Hall, Dea Wright, Deborah Rathernel, Emilie Amundson, Erin Arango-Escalante, Jennie Mauer, Jillian Clemens, Joan Beck, John Ashley, Kathy Mullally, Kelly Matthews, Kia Kjensrud, Lana Nenide, Mark Tyler, Peng Her, Ruth Schmidt, Salvador Carranza, Sheila Briggs

Excused: Jose Martinez (designee), Katie Roberts (designee), Lupe Martinez, Morna Foy, Quincey Daniels, Ray Cross, Rebecca Larson (designee), Rolf Wegenke, Suzette Rembert

Staff: Priya Bhatia, Jillian Clemens, Sherry W. Kimball

**CALL TO ORDER AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The meeting was called to order at 9:05 by Assistant State Superintendent Sheila J. Briggs. Council members reviewed the meeting minutes from the March 3, 2021 Council meeting. John Ashley motioned to approve the minutes. Salvador Carranza seconded the motion. The minutes were approved without any additions or edits. A quorum of 24 council members were present.

**NEW BUSINESS: CO-CHAIR WELCOME AND UPDATES**

Secretary Emilie Amundsen provided a status of the budget process within the state Joint Finance Committee, and a summary of the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families (DCF) budget items. No date has been set for DCF to testify to the Joint Finance Committee related to proposed budget items.

State Superintendent Carolyn Stanford Taylor provided an overview of the harmful decisions by the Joint Finance Committee regarding the proposed 2021-2023 budget. The committee decided to use the receipt of one-time federal funds as a rationale to hold off on significant state supports to address ongoing needs. It is not providing funding increases under revenue limits, Per Pupil aid, or General Revenue aid. Additionally, brief update was shared regarding the transition to a new State Superintendent, Dr. Jill K. Underly, PhD. Dr. Underly will be sworn in on July 5, 2021.

Secretary Amundson and State Superintendent Carolyn Stanford Taylor commended the members of the ECAC regarding their continued work and commitment to Wisconsin's

youngest children. They highlighted role the ECAC has with elevating the importance of early care and education to creating a stronger Wisconsin.

#### NEW BUSINESS: BUDGET ADVOCACY UPDATE FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS

Council members shared updates regarding advocacy efforts they related to the Governor's proposed 2021-2021 budget.

#### BREAK

#### NEW BUSINESS: FEDERAL FUNDING UPDATES

Sheila Briggs, Assistant State Superintendent for the Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction and Erin Arango-Escalante, administrator for the Division of Early Care and Education for the Wisconsin Department of Children and Families Child provided an overview of how the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations can and are being used in school districts and the early and education systems.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

#### WRAP-UP AND NEXT STEPS

Secretary Amundson and council members thanked State Superintendent Stanford Taylor, and Assistant State Superintendents Sheila Briggs and Barbara Van Haren for their dedication to Wisconsin's children, families and professionals, and their contributions to the ECAC.

Next steps regarding the direction of the ECAC for the next two-years were briefly discussed. Follow-up information will be shared during the next council meeting on September 1, 2021, at which time the council will meet Dr. Jill Underly.

#### ADJOURN

Barbara Van Haren motioned to adjourn the meeting. Barbara Bales seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00

Contact Priya Bhatia, at 414.270.4750 or [priya.bhatia@wisconsin.gov](mailto:priya.bhatia@wisconsin.gov) if you have questions about the agenda, have a disability and need to access this information in an alternate format, or need this information translated into another language.